

February 27, 2018

Testimony regarding H.B. No. 5149: AN ACT CONCERNING SOBER LIVING HOMES.

To the Distinguished Co-Chairs and Members of the Public Health Committee:

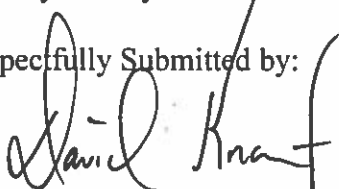
The Connecticut Association of Directors of Health (CADH) is a nonprofit organization comprised of the Directors of Connecticut's local health departments and districts. Local health directors are the statutory agents of the Commissioner of Public Health and are critical providers of essential public health services at the local level in Connecticut.

CADH strongly supports HB 5149 which would direct the adoption of criteria for "registered sober homes" in Connecticut. This would develop a level of protection ensuring that basic needs are being met for residents of the home, their families and the communities where these homes are located. Currently, such homes are opening across the State and there are no minimum operating standards or guidelines. Since residents of these homes are subject to the ADA, they are exempt from Zoning regulations and are not subject to any oversight at all.

Failure to begin some form of regulation or operating standards for sober homes could lead to further opioid induced fatalities and widespread community disruption. This legislation represents a good first step in meeting that challenge.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully Submitted by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Knauf", written over the printed name.

David Knauf, Co-Chair
CADH Advocacy Committee